

Peterson, Bobbye

From: William Church <skipchurcent@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:48 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: Opposition to S.B. No. 1085 AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGALIZATION OF THE RETAIL SALE AND POSSESSION OF CANNABIS

**Testimony by William S. Church in Opposition to
S.B. No. 1085 AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGALIZATION
OF THE RETAIL SALE AND POSSESSION OF CANNABIS**

My name is William Church and I am testifying against Senate Bill 1085 to Legalize Marijuana. This may sound dramatic, but people will die if the bill passes. It's only logical. If more marijuana is available and more people consume it, more people will make the choice to get behind the wheel of a car while impaired.

My son Dustin was killed by a drunk and drugged driver. The driver had marijuana in her system. So, you can understand my concern that others will suffer as my family has.

There isn't time to go through all of the statistics that I've gathered from other states and organizations, so I will spend the time asking some questions that you can ask yourselves to see if Connecticut is prepared for legalization.

- Does this bill make Connecticut safer or more dangerous?
- At what level is someone impaired after ingesting Delta 9 THC? (Colorado's 5 nanograms/milliliter has no scientific basis)
- How will you test for Delta 9 THC? (It remains in the fat cells surrounding the brain affecting behavior long after levels drop in the blood.)
- Since Connecticut doesn't have expedited electronic warrants, how will you draw blood in a timely fashion? (From peak to below 5 nanograms of Delta 9 THC takes about an hour and 15 minutes.)
- Connecticut has 169 towns with three shifts each day for law enforcement, yet we only have 53 Drug Recognition Experts. The minimum number to cover all shifts is 507. How will you get to that number before legalization?

- How will you deal with drugged driving in DMV's Administrative Per Se Hearings where there is no number for marijuana like a .08 for alcohol?

Those are a few Public Safety Questions concerning driving under the influence. Here are some other questions.

- Since Colorado legalized marijuana in 2012, violent crime has increased by more than 17%, property crime has increased by more than 12% and homelessness has increased by nearly 11%. What is the plan to deal with that in Connecticut?
- What is the plan to deal with increased black market sales of marijuana? In Colorado, from 2014 to 2016, black market sales increased by 380% because it was cheaper.

I have no delusions that I will be able to stop this boulder that's already rolling downhill. But I would like some legitimate projections of what the damage will be... and more than that I'd like for the state to have a plan... not after passage, as other states have done, but before. I think the people of Connecticut deserve that...

especially if a loved one or someone they know will die. One final question, **IS IT WORTH IT.**